

**Amendments to the Specification:**

1. Page 12, after the paragraph ending at line 8, please add the following paragraphs:

--The present invention provides a multi-layered prophylactic article comprising an elastomeric base layer including an internal and an external surface, at least a part region of the internal surface including an anti-friction layer composed of a polymeric material with an internal surface and an external surface facing the internal surface of the base layer, wherein at least a part region on the internal surface of the base layer is positioned at at least one of, between the base layer and the anti-friction layer, in the anti-friction layer, or on the internal surface of the anti-friction layer, the anti-friction layer includes at least one active substance and/or dye inside particles with a diameter having an upper limit of 500  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 10  $\mu\text{m}$ , or a layer incorporating the at least one active substance and/or dye is disposed in at least a part region between the base layer and the anti-friction layer, the anti-friction layer including regularly recurring raised areas or recesses of an irregular shape, produced by rapidly removing liquid from the anti-friction layer, in which a proportion of the recesses selected from a range with a lower limit of 20 % and an upper limit of 95 %, by reference to the total number of recesses, the recesses extending through the entire thickness of the anti-friction layer.

The present invention provides a method of producing a multi-layered prophylactic article comprising: providing at least a base layer composed of an elastomeric material including an internal surface and an external surface, the internal surface of the base layer including an anti-friction layer composed of a polymeric material with an internal surface and

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an external surface facing the internal surface of the base layer, wherein at least one active substance and/or dye inside particles is applied to at least one of the internal surface of the base layer, between the base layer and the anti-friction layer, in the anti-friction layer, on the external surface of the anti-friction layer, or in the at least one part-region between the base layer and the anti-friction layer, the particles having a diameter with an upper limit of 500  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 10  $\mu\text{m}$  the anti-friction layer having regularly recurring raised areas or recesses of an irregular shape produced by rapidly removing liquid from the anti-friction layer, and a proportion of the recesses s having a range with a lower limit of 20 % and an upper limit of 95 % by reference to the total number of recesses, the recesses extending through the entire thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In another aspect of the invention, the article is a medical glove.

In another aspect of the invention, the diameter of the particles has an upper limit of 250  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In yet another aspect of the invention, the diameter of the particles is at least 80 % of the thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In a further aspect of the invention, the diameter of the particles is the same size as the thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In another aspect of the invention, the diameter of the particles is bigger than the thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the part region encompasses the region of at least one of, the distal forearm, the carpal bones, the metacarpals, and the base, middle

and terminal phalanges of the fingers.

In a further aspect of the invention, the particles and/or the layer is applied to both the palm side and dorsal side in at least one part region.

In another aspect of the invention, the part region extends across a region of the internal surface of the base layer and/or between the base layer and the anti-friction layer and/or in the anti-friction layer and/or on the internal surface of the anti-friction layer in a range with a lower limit of 40 % and an upper limit of 100 %.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the particles and/or the layer is a different color from the base layer and anti-friction layer.

In a further aspect of the invention, the particles are water-insoluble.

In another aspect of the invention, the particles are water-soluble.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the active substance has at least one of an antibacterial, antiviral, germicidal, spermicidal or protective action.

In a further aspect of the invention, the active substance is selected from a group consisting of chlorohexidin, an acetate, a hydrochloride, nonoxinol 9 and aloe vera.

In another aspect of the invention, the active substance is selected from a group consisting of vitamins, plant extracts, in particular secondary plant extracts.

In yet another aspect of the invention, vitamins are selected from a group consisting of compounds with a retinoid structure (vitamin A), vitamin B-complex, ascorbic acid (vitamin C), calciferols (vitamin D), tocopherols (vitamin E), vitamin K, flavonoids and biotin.

In a further aspect of the invention, the concentration of the at least one active substance and/or dye in the particles has a range with a lower limit of 1 % and an upper limit of 20 %.

In a further aspect of the invention, the concentration of the at least one active substance and/or dye in the particles has a range with a lower limit of 2 % and an upper limit of 15 %.

In another aspect of the invention, the concentration of the at least one active substance and/or dye in the particles has a range with a lower limit of 5 % and an upper limit of 10 %.

In another aspect of the invention, a shell of the particles is pressure-sensitive.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the particles form the anti-friction layer in at least a part-region.

In a further aspect of the invention, a thickness of the anti-friction layer is has a range with a lower limit of 30  $\mu\text{m}$  and an upper limit of 500  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In another aspect of the invention, the thickness of the anti-friction layer is has a range with a lower limit of 55  $\mu\text{m}$  and an upper limit of 200  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In yet another aspect of the invention, the recesses have a maximum diameter, as seen in plan view, in a range with an upper limit of 30  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a lower limit of 1  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In a further aspect of the invention, the recesses are crater-shaped and taper in the direction towards the base layer.

In another aspect of the invention, the walls of the crater-shaped recesses subtend

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an angle with the line perpendicular to the anti-friction layer has a range with a lower limit of 30 ° and an upper limit of 80 °.

In yet another aspect of the invention, a quantity of the active substance and/or dye is selected so that the active substance and/or dye is preferably released in at least substantially uniform doses throughout the entire time the prophylactic article is being worn.

In a further aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye has a solubility in water at 20 °C with a lower limit of 1 g/l and an upper limit of 20 g/l.

In another aspect of the invention, a solution of the active substance and/or dye in the particles has a pH value selected from a range of 5.5 to 7.5.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the raised areas are arranged in an at least predominantly network-type arrangement with inter-connecting webs.

In a further aspect of the invention, a height of at least a part of the webs is between 25 % and 100 % of the total thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the particles and/or layer is or are applied in the form of a heterogeneous mixture.

In a further aspect of the invention, at least a part-region of the anti-friction layer is formed by the heterogeneous mixture.

In another aspect of the invention, a concentration of particles in the heterogeneous mixture has a lower limit of 1 % and an upper limit of 50%.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the concentration of the particles in the

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- heterogeneous mixture has a lower limit of 6 % and an upper limit of 25 %.

In a further aspect of the invention, the liquid is removed within a period with a lower limit of 10 seconds and an upper limit of 20 min.

In another aspect of the invention, the liquid is removed at a temperature from a range with a lower limit of 60 °C and an upper limit of 150 °C.

In yet another aspect of the invention, particles with a water-soluble shell are used.

In a further aspect of the invention, particles with a water-insoluble shell are used.

In another aspect of the invention, the time during which the liquid is removed is selected so that crater-shaped recesses are formed which taper in the direction towards the base layer.

In another aspect of the invention, the elastomeric base layer is made from synthetic or natural latex.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye inside particles comprise microcapsules.

In a further aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye inside particles have a diameter with an upper limit of 400 µm and a lower limit of 30 µm.

In another aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye inside particles have a diameter with an upper limit of 300 µm and a lower limit of 40 µm.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the proportion of the recesses by reference to the total number of recesses with a lower limit of 35 % and an upper limit of 80 %.

In a further aspect of the invention, the proportion of the recesses by reference to

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the total number of recesses with a lower limit of 40 % and an upper limit of 75 %.

In another aspect of the invention, the diameter of the particles has an upper limit of 200  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 80  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In yet another aspect of the invention, the diameter of the particles has an upper limit of 150  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 100  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In a further aspect of the invention, the diameter of the particles is at least 85% of the thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In another aspect of the invention, the diameter of the particles is at least 90% of the thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the part region extends across a region of the internal surface of the base layer and/or between the base layer and the anti-friction layer and/or in the anti-friction layer and/or on the internal surface of the anti-friction layer in a range with a lower limit of 50 % and an upper limit of 80 %.

In a further aspect of the invention, the part region extends across a region of the internal surface of the base layer and/or between the base layer and the anti-friction layer and/or in the anti-friction layer and/or on the internal surface of the anti-friction layer in a range with a lower limit of 60 % and an upper limit of 70 %.

In another aspect of the invention, the chlorohexidin comprises a gluconate.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the plant extracts comprise secondary plant extracts.

In yet another aspect of the invention a thickness of the anti-friction layer has a

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range with a lower limit of 40  $\mu\text{m}$  and an upper limit of 400  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In a further aspect of the invention a thickness of the anti-friction layer has a range with a lower limit of 50  $\mu\text{m}$  and an upper limit of 300  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In another aspect of the invention, a thickness of the anti-friction layer has a range with a lower limit of 60  $\mu\text{m}$  and an upper limit of 150  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In yet another aspect of the invention, a thickness of the anti-friction layer has a range with a lower limit of 75  $\mu\text{m}$  and an upper limit of 110  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In a further aspect of the invention, the recesses have a maximum diameter, as seen in plan view, in a range with a upper limit of 25  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 5  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In another aspect of the invention, the recesses have a maximum diameter, as seen in plan view, in a range with a upper limit of 20  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In yet another aspect of the invention, walls of the crater-shaped recesses subtend an angle with the line perpendicular to the anti-friction layer has a range with a lower limit of 42 ° and an upper limit of 75 °.

In a further aspect of the invention, walls of the crater-shaped recesses subtend an angle with the line perpendicular to the anti-friction layer has a range with a lower limit of 47 ° and an upper limit of 60 °.

In another aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye has a solubility in water at 20 °C with a lower limit of 3 g/l and an upper limit of 15 g/l.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye has a solubility in water at 20 °C with a lower limit of 4.5 g/l and an upper limit of 8 g/l.



In a further aspect of the invention, a height of at least a part of the webs is between 33 % and 75 % of the total thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In another aspect of the invention, a height of at least a part of the webs is between 40 % and 60 % of the total thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the elastomeric base layer is made from synthetic or natural latex.

In a further aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye inside particles have a diameter with an upper limit of 400  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 30  $\mu\text{m}$

In another aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye inside particles have a diameter with an upper limit of 300  $\mu\text{m}$  and a lower limit of 40  $\mu\text{m}$ .

In yet another aspect of the invention, the layer incorporating at least one active substance and/or dye is applied in the at least one part-region between the base layer and the anti-friction layer by dipping or spraying.

In another aspect of the invention, the proportion of the recesses by reference to the total number of recesses has a range with a lower limit of 35 % and an upper limit of 80 %.

In a further aspect of the invention, the proportion of the recesses by reference to the total number of recesses has a range with a lower limit of 40 % and an upper limit of 75 %.

In a further aspect of the invention, the particles and/or layer is or are applied in the form of a suspension or dispersion.

In another aspect of the invention, a concentration of particles in the heterogeneous mixture has a lower limit of 2 % and an upper limit of 40 %.

In yet another aspect of the invention, a concentration of particles in the heterogeneous mixture has a lower limit of 5 % and an upper limit of 30 %.

In a further aspect of the invention, a concentration of particles in the heterogeneous mixture has a lower limit of 7 % and an upper limit of 20 %.

In another aspect of the invention, a concentration of particles in the heterogeneous mixture has a lower limit of 10 % and an upper limit of 15%.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the liquid is removed within a period with a lower limit of 25 seconds and an upper limit of 15 minutes.

In a further aspect of the invention, the liquid is removed within a period with a lower limit of 50 seconds and an upper limit of 10 minutes.

In another aspect of the invention, the liquid is removed at a temperature from a range with a lower limit of 66 °C and an upper limit of 125 °C.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the liquid is removed at a temperature from a range with a lower limit of 70 °C and an upper limit of 110 °C.

In a further aspect of the invention, the chlorohexidin comprises a gluconate.

In another aspect of the invention, the concentration of the at least one active substance and/or dye in the particles is between 2 % and 15 %.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the concentration of the at least one active substance and/or dye in the particles has a lower limit of 5 % and an upper limit of 10 %.

In another aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye has a solubility in water at 20 °C with a lower limit of 3 g/l and an upper limit of 15 g/l.

In yet another aspect of the invention, the active substance and/or dye has a solubility in water at 20 °C with a lower limit of 4.5 g/l and an upper limit of 8 g/l.

In a further aspect of the invention, the at least a part of the webs are formed with a height between 33 % and 75 % of the total thickness of the anti-friction layer.

In another aspect of the invention, the at least a part of the webs are formed with a height between 40 % and 60 % of the total thickness of the anti-friction layer.--

2. Page 12, following “BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS”, please amend the following paragraph:

~~---To provide a clearer understanding of the invention, it~~ The present invention  
will be described in the following text by the exemplary, non-limiting embodiments  
shown in the figures, wherein: ~~explained in more detail with reference to the appended~~  
~~drawings. Of the respective simplified schematic diagrams:---~~